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Lakeland College students to benefit from upgrading simulator

Energy programming students at Lakeland College's Lloydminster campus will be able to simulate complete heavy oil upgrading processes thanks to a donation from Husky Energy.

Husky, in partnership with Invensys, donated a specialized simulator and software to the college's Energy Centre.

"We know how vital hands-on experience is to learning," said Husky CEO Asim Ghosh. "Husky depends on skilled workers and is committed to developing skilled trades capacity in Canada."

"This technology is phenomenal for heavy oil training and we're thrilled that Husky donated it to us for use in the new facility. This will help our students live the learning and develop skills that industry needs," said Dr. Tracy Edwards, president of Lakeland College.

Husky and Lakeland College have also signed a contract extension that will see \$360,000 donated over the next three years for power engineering scholarships. As many as five awards of \$22,000 each will be given annually to second-year heavy oil power engineering students to help with education-related costs.

Lakeland and Husky have a long history.

In 2012 Husky donated \$750,000 towards construction of the Energy Centre, plus \$360,000 to start the scholarship program.

Including today's announcements, Husky has donated more than \$2 million in cash and gifts-in-kind since 2011. These donations continue Husky's support of Lakeland College and its students through capital campaigns, student awards and curriculum development, and practicum placements and employment.

Construction of the Energy Centre is nearing completion. It's anticipated that students who start the heavy oil operations technician and heavy oil power engineering programs this fall will have access to two 50-seat simulation labs, a common area and change rooms. Equipment in the power lab, including a two-storey distillation tower and four boilers, will be commissioned this fall and should be operational by 2015.

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